

Survey # WA-I-749

Approximate date Ca. 1911

Risser House

Street Address 13802 Maugansville Road

Town, State Maugansville, Maryland 21767

private X, public \_\_\_\_\_

Located at the corner of Maugansville Road and Maugans Avenue is this two story, three bay side gabled brick house, and a frame stable. The house is constructed in all stretcher bond with segmental arches over the windows and doors. A one story shed roofed brick kitchen extension is located at the southwest corner of the house. A one story wraparound porch extends across the front (east) and south walls. Behind the house and facing onto Maugans Avenue is a frame stable. A poured concrete retaining wall defines the edge of the property in front of the house. In the early 1900s, this property belonged to the Maugans family, and was part of that which was subdivided to form Maugans' Addition to Maugansville in 1909. The date attribution for this house is based on its overall form and particular features, such as the segmental window arches and wraparound porch and the time that the property was sold to Samuel Risser. It is representative of Maugansville's main development period in the early 20th century.

#### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

- I. Geographic Organization: Western Maryland
- II. Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930
- III. Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning
- IV. Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Dwelling, Stable

Photo Reference: Photo # 10

Form Prepared By: Paula S. Reed, PhD, Architectural Historian  
Woodward-Clyde  
200 Orchard Ridge Drive  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Date: 6/6/97

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WA-I-749

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Risser House

and/or common

### 2. Location

street & number 13802 Maugansville Road

☐ not for publication

city, town Maugansville

☐ vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Washington

### 3. Classification

#### Category

☐ district  
☒ building(s)  
☐ structure  
☐ site  
☐ object

#### Ownership

☐ public  
☒ private  
☐ both

#### Public Acquisition

☐ in process  
☐ being considered  
☒ not applicable

#### Status

☒ occupied  
☐ unoccupied  
☐ work in progress

#### Accessible

☒ yes: restricted  
☐ yes: unrestricted  
☐ no

#### Present Use

☐ agriculture  
☐ commercial  
☐ educational  
☐ entertainment  
☐ government  
☐ industrial  
☐ military

☐ museum  
☐ park  
☒ private residence  
☐ religious  
☐ scientific  
☐ transportation  
☐ other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. Robert Holsinger

street & number 13739 Village Mill Drive

telephone no.:

city, town Maugansville

state and zip code Maryland 21767

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse

Liber 742

street & number 95 West Washington Street

Folio 1096

city, town Hagerstown

state Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal

☐ state

☐ county

☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Resource Count = 2

The Risser House is a two-story, symmetrical, three-bay brick building dating circa 1911. Located at the intersection of Maugans Avenue and Maugansville Road, the dwelling is sited within a residential block. The site also contains a frame stable.

The rectangular shaped lot is 45' wide along Maugansville Avenue and 180' deep. A short concrete retaining wall lines the corner of the property at the intersection. The building sits back a few feet from the road and a large tree is located on the southwest corner of the lot.

The side-gabled building is constructed in all stretcher bond and has a stone foundation. The windows are 1/1 double-hung sash and all have segmental arches except for paired windows on the first floor of the south elevation. Asphalt 3-tab shingles cover the roof and paired brick chimneys with corbelled caps are located within the interior of the gable ends. The overhanging eaves have a plain frieze.

The facade, fronting Maugansville Avenue, features a wrap-around porch on the facade and the south wall. Sitting only approximately one-foot off the ground, the flat roof porch has a cement floor, no railing and is supported by round posts leading to a plain frieze. The central half-glass door has a flat light transom and is flanked by two windows. The second floor contains three evenly-spaced windows.

The south elevation consists of paired windows on the east side of the first floor, which replace a former window as evidenced by a brick arch over the eastern-most window of the pair. Two windows on the second floor are located towards the ends of the wall. A small window is located to the east of the center line of the gable end. A one-story shed roofed brick kitchen extension is located at the southwest corner of the house and contains a door in the east elevation and a window in the south elevation. A wood sided addition has further been added to the west of the addition and contains a rectangular 1/1 window.

The west rear elevation has a new two-story stairway on the north end. The shed roof addition has a half-glass door to the south. At least one window has been closed in on the first floor based on the change in mortar color. One window is located on the south side of the second floor.

The north side elevation has two 1/1 windows in the first floor and two in the second, the window on the west side of the second floor is apparently a replacement window that filled in an original opening as evidenced by the new brick work under the window. The side gable has a cornice return and an off-center small square window to the east.

The frame stable is a side gable with a forebay covered with corrugated metal roof panels. A vertical sided double door is located on the east end of the facade and a single door is near the center of the facade. On the west side, facing the alley is a beaded board door on pulleys, and two openings in the upper story; one on strap hinges and a one that has been enclosed. A chimney is located in the center of the roof on the north side and one window is located on this wall. The east side of the house contains five windows of various sizes with one in the gable, and the rest on the lower level. One door is also located on this side at its north end. Due to the number of openings and the chimney it may be possible the building served other functions.

Alterations to the building include the concrete porch, which the owner reports is new, the rear addition, and the stairway. The rear addition has altered the original wall. However, despite these alterations the building maintains its ability to convey its original early 20th century design.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. WA-I-749

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below				
prehistoric	archeology-prehistoric	community planning	landscape architecture	religion		
1400-1499	archeology-historic	conservation	law	science		
1500-1599	agriculture	economics	literature	sculpture		
1600-1699	architecture	education	military	social/		
1700-1799	art	engineering	music	humanitarian		
1800-1899	commerce	exploration/settlement	philosophy	theater		
x 1900-	communications	industry	politics/government	transportation		
		invention		other(specify)		

Specific dates ca. 1911

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B x C D

Applicable Exceptions: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: \_\_\_ national \_\_\_ state x local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Built circa 1911, the Risser House is representative of Maugansville's main development period in the early 20th century. The three-bay, two-story, side gable house is an example of the traditional building values in Washington County. The house reflects a type of dwelling built in the Village of Maugansville when it served as both a farm trading center for the surrounding agricultural region and as a home for workers in the nearby county seat of Hagerstown; a major manufacturing center in the State of Maryland.

### History

Built circa 1911, the Risser House originated in Maugans' Addition to Maugansville in 1909. The land included in the addition was originally land sold by a Mennonite, Joseph Horst, to Mollie E. Maugans. Subsequently subdivided into 18 lots, the addition was comprised of land located to the north of Maugans Avenue, west of Public Road (present day Maugansville Road) and on both sides of North Street (present day Village Mill Avenue). The lots are generally 50' wide and 155' deep, a common size in Maugansville. The purchaser, Mollie Maugans and her husband, William C. Maugans, were large land holders in Maugansville as evidenced in other deeds (WA-I-754 and WA-I-755).

The Maugans sold lot #16 to Samuel and Alice Risser, in 1911. Samuel Risser is listed in the 1920 census as a laborer on the railroad and his house was located about one block from the Maugansville Railroad Station. The Risser's owned the property for 16 years and it is believed that the Risser's most likely built this home, and based on their name, may have been Mennonites<sup>1</sup>. In 1927, Alice Risser, a widow, sold the house to George & Mamie Petre<sup>2</sup>. The Petre family were members of the Mennonite churches in Washington County. The property changed hands several more times until its current owners obtained it in 1983.

### Theme

Early 20th century architecture in Maugansville: The range of architectural styles in Maugansville is a visual portrayal of the history of the village. The dwellings in particular express the conservative beliefs associated with the Mennonites who settled in the area, the working class nature of the community, and the architectural and traditional styles constructed in Maugansville during a second building phase that occurred in Maugansville from 1890-1920. During the early 20th century, Maugansville was prospering as a farm trading center for the surrounding region and served as a home for workers employed in Hagerstown's manufacturing boom brought on by the railroads and industrialization. First associated

<sup>1</sup> The Risser family name appears in Lehman's Mennonites of the Washington County, Maryland and Franklin County, Pennsylvania Conference, p. 275.  
 Ibid, p. 287.

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DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

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with a railroad laborer, the Risser House is an example of the type of dwelling lived in by the working class of Maugansville. Its stable is reflective of the large number of support buildings contained in the community that enhance its rural atmosphere.

The second building phase in Maugansville from 1890-1920 is seen in the characteristics of the Risser House as a vernacular, tradition influenced buildings typified by the three or four-bay wide, side gables houses often with an L or shed extension at the rear. Brick examples have stretcher or common bond facades, segmental arches above windows and doors and two-over-two light sash windows. Most of these houses have or had full across-the-front porches. Including both frame and brick examples, this type of dwelling dominates the Maugansville streetscape with approximately 60 houses of this type and period, over half of the 102 dwellings in the village.

The Mennonites, who began settling in the area in the mid-19th century, originally emigrated to America in hopes of religious freedom and economic improvement. Many migrated to Washington County from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania because the farm land was lower priced in Washington than Lancaster County. As time went by, many Mennonites settled in town, taking on nonfarming positions or retiring from the farm. The simple and traditional nature of the Risser House is reflective of the conservative values of the Mennonites.

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### Chain of Title

03/31/1890 Joseph Horst & wife to Mollie E. Maugans  
part of original tract - Salem part of Ashton Hall  
Liber 98 Folio 505

10/31/1911 William C. & Mollie E. Maugans to Samuel E. & Alice B. Risser  
Liber 138 Folio 541

12/31/1927 Alice Risser, widow to George W. & Mamie F. Petre  
Lot #16  
Liber 179 Folio 155  
(SE corner of original tract of Horst land at intersection of Maugans Ave. & Maugansville Road. On Mamie's death, George got property by survivorship, part of original property of Joseph Horst in 1890.)

08/30/1951 George W. Petre, widower to Carrie B. Litton  
Liber 265 Folio 307

02/02/1960 John Wagaman, Trustee to Carrie B. & Francis P. Litton, Sr.  
Liber 354 Folio 725

02/02/1968 Carrie B. Litton & Francis P. Litton, Sr. (Husband) to Abel E. & Iva S. Martin  
Lots 16 & 17  
Liber 47 Folio 345

07/15/1977 Abel E. & Iva S. Martin to Michael W. Cook and Kathy E. Cook  
Lots 16 & 17  
Liber 640 Folio 718

05/05/1983 Michael W. & Kathy E. Cook to Robert E. & Regine L. Holsinger, Sr.  
Lots 16 & 17 on plat of "Maugan's Addition to Maugansville (#72)  
Liber 742 Folio 1096

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### HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

#### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Maryland

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning

Resource Types:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic/Single Dwelling  
Stable

Known Design Source: Unknown

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WA-I-749

Lehman, Daniel R. Mennonites of the Washington County, Maryland and Franklin County, Pennsylvania Conference. Hagerstown, Maryland, 1990, p. 287.

Washington County Land Records  
U. S. Census, 1920


## 10. Geographical Data

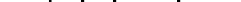
Acreage of nominated property .2 acres

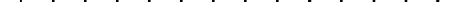
Quadrangle name Hagerstown

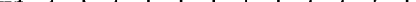
Quadrangle scale 1:24,000


UTM References DO NOT COMPLETE UTM REFERENCES

A  Zone Easting Northing

B 

D 

E 

G 

Three bar charts showing the distribution of the number of children per family for different groups: H, I, and J. Each chart has a horizontal axis for the number of children (0 to 6) and a vertical axis for frequency (0 to 10).

Number of Children	Group H	Group I	Group J
0	0	0	0
1	4	0	4
2	0	6	0
3	0	4	6
4	0	0	4
5	0	0	0
6	0	0	0

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary is defined by Lot #16 and is the current boundary of record for this parcel.

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title	Susan Cianci Salvatore
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organization Woodward-Clyde

date June 1997

street & number 200 Orchard Ridge Drive

telephone 301-670-3361

city or town Gaithersburg

state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: **Maryland Historical Trust  
People's Resource Center  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7000**



EBY

LANE

SEMBLY OF GOD  
49/100

27  
PAUL J. WHITE  
887/408

MICHAEL W. LORSHBAUGH SR  
891/1066

R. E. OCKER  
235/379

HARRY F. MOWEN  
447/220

EDWARD W BREWER  
643/239

BONITA  
474/

M CORPORATION  
978/837

SAMUEL K. HISER  
930/298

GARY W. HENDRICKSON  
554/124

17500'  
EDWARD W. BREWER  
438/371  
802/765

RUTH R. SHILLING  
975/808

ROBERT  
HOLSIN  
861/

162.00'  
EONARD L. HENSON  
431/662

MARRY E. OBERHOLZER  
427/769

AMANDA E. MARTIN  
541/489

124.36'  
MILLARD W. ALLEN  
817/859

ROBERT E  
HOLSINGER  
399/593

NAT  
KEE  
72

LARENCE BARNHART  
547/564

KENNETH W. WASILIKS  
695/51

180'  
P1618

ROBERT E. HOLSINGER SR.  
742/1096

ASH. CO. SANITARY DIST  
742/719

WILLIAM G. KAPLAN  
557/523

MAUGANS

GC EN R.  
WELLER  
364/78

12  
JOHN E. BARTLES  
377/748

MARTIN L. BUMBAUGH  
557/715

G. LOUDIN  
/323

ROBERT E. HOLSINGER  
378/477

P1621

DONALD W. RIDENOUR  
329/596

DRIVE  
L. ELWOOD HOLSINGER  
230/248

MELVIN L. MARTIN  
592/42

LORRAINE LEWIS  
156/28

ROAD  
GOODWILL VOL. FIRE CO.  
COMMUNITY FIRE HALL  
501/386

MAMIE I. MARTIN  
554/303

GOODWILL VOL. FIRE CO.  
INC.  
336/188

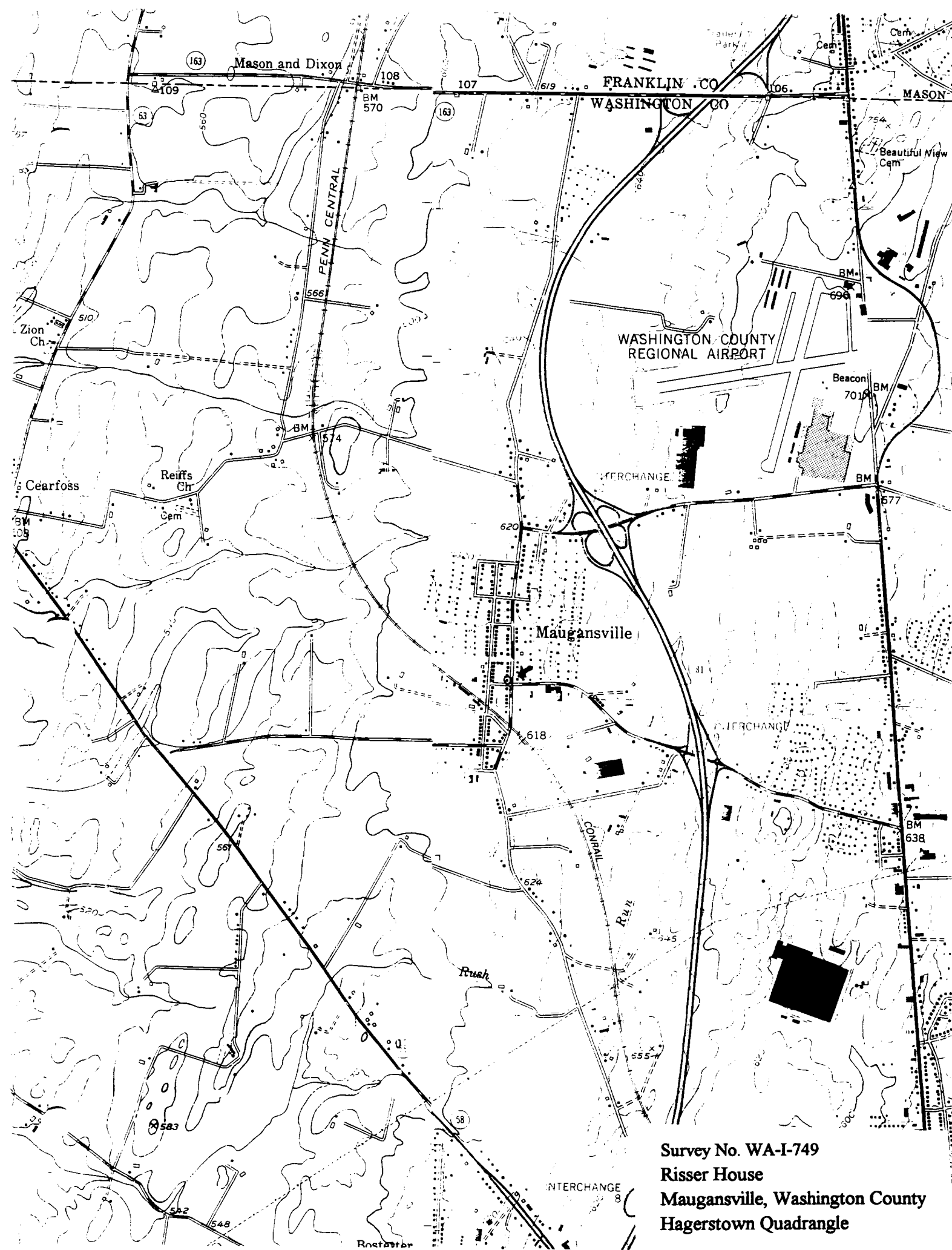
MAUGANSVILLE RU  
422/404  
469/206

140.62'  
152.21'  
LEWIS M. COSS ETAL  
822/643

MAUG. ELEV. & LUMBER CO., INC

641/574

Survey No. WA-I-749  
Risser House  
Maugansville, Washington County  
Tax Map No. 24-3



Survey No. WA-I-749  
Risser House  
Maugansville, Washington County  
Hagerstown Quadrangle



WA-I-749

Risser House, Mountville  
Washington Co MD

C. PFEFFERER

5/97

Neg. MD 5410

Risser House, 13802 Mountville Rd NW View

#1063



WA - I-744

Risser House Mangrove L

Washington, CO RD

SC Salvatore

3/97

Neg. MD SHED

Risser House 13802 Mangrove Rd, San View

#043



WA I-799

Russell House Mangrove Is

SL SALVAGE

6/97

Mrs. MD 1760

Russell House - 15802 Mangrove Rd, Eview

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